

SECRET

DIARY NOTES

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DD/S [REDACTED]

1 December 1961

1. Mr. McCone conducted his first Deputies' Meeting this morning:

a. He started off by announcing that he intended to devote a maximum of his time to coordination of the Intelligence Community and that the Deputy Director was, effective immediately, the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of the Central Intelligence Agency. He delegated to him the management of the Agency on a day-to-day basis, including personnel, organizational matters, etc. He said that if there were any organizational changes of a revolutionary nature, however, he wanted to be consulted. H

b. After some discussion it was agreed that Mr. McCone would not attend the Deputies' Meeting, except to participate in the discussion of those items which were of interest to him. The Deputy Director would run the meeting. General Cabell suggested that these meetings be held once a week, and it was agreed that this would be at 0930 hours on Tuesday mornings. There will be an agenda for these meetings and items should be submitted at any time, the deadline being Mondays at noon. [REDACTED] will be the Secretary and actions agreed upon at the meetings will be recorded and circulated.

c. Mr. McCone said that he expected to respect compartmentation and realized that there were many things in the Clandestine Service that should be taken up with General Cabell or with him and not discussed at these meetings. In fact, it was agreed generally that the Tuesday morning meetings would be limited to the discussion of matters of common concern and that when only one Deputy Director was concerned this matter should be discussed with him directly.

d. General Cabell requested that items for the agenda be submitted in two parts: the first part, those matters which would be of interest to the DCI and in which he would want to participate, and the second, those in which he would not care to participate in discussing.

e. It was announced that Mr. McCone would change the USIB Meeting to Wednesday afternoons. It was also announced that General Cabell would be appointed a member of USIB, and when he was chairing the Board in Mr. McCone's absence, Mr. Amory would occupy the CIA chair. Mr. McCone does not intend to be an advocate for the Agency when he is chairing USIB.

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f. Mr. McCone indicated that he wanted to continue with his briefings, which are far from complete, and later in the day I talked with [REDACTED] and arranged to get to him a list of those DD/S units which Mr. McCone had not been briefed on to date.

g. Mr. McCone announced that he wanted to spend a full day at the National Security Agency in the very near future. He seemed to fear that the Secretary of Defense was trying to drop NSA in his lap and wanted to resist it as much as possible.

h. There was some discussion at this meeting also about tightening up the chain of command; i.e., going through Deputy Directors rather than calling everybody in the Agency direct as, of course, had become the custom of Mr. Dulles. General Cabell said that he would be glad to go along with this up to a point, but there were many times when he felt that it was highly advantageous to talk with the individual concerned without first going through the appropriate Deputy Director. He added, however, that he considered it the first duty of any such subordinate individual following the conversation to get in touch with his Deputy Director and acquaint him with the discussion and the action which had been taken. (I think that we will see an improvement under General Cabell's direction in this situation.)

i. I briefed Mr. McCone on where we stood in our Fiscal Year 1963 budget and told him that if he intended to talk to Mr. Bell about it he should do so rather promptly since, as I understood it, the budget would be going to press on or about 10 December. He said that he would call Mr. Bell; he also agreed that I should write Bob Macy a letter pointing out certain major policy decisions which have to be made; this I have done. He asked me particularly to advise Mr. Macy that it was his strong conviction that our request for funds for Radio Free Europe and other similar activities should not be cut at this time. This was also included in the letter.

2. I have given some thought to changing the time for our DD/S Staff Meetings but decided to continue having them on Wednesday mornings which will enable us to pass on anything that comes out of the Tuesday Deputies' Meeting.

LKW:mam